

Iowa DNR News

For immediate release

Jan. 10, 2007

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2007 NATIONAL PHEASANT FEST COMES TO DES MOINES, JAN. 19-21

DES MOINES -- Mark your calendars for 2007 National Pheasant Fest, Jan. 19-21, at the Iowa Events Center in Des Moines, and be sure to include a visit to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources while you are there. The DNR is a proud sponsor of Pheasant Fest, put on by Pheasants Forever, a leading conservation organization and DNR partner in conservation efforts in Iowa. The event promises to have something for the whole family.

Biologists, foresters, conservation officers, park rangers and conservation educators will be available in the DNR booth to answer questions of the public. Licenses will be sold from the booth as well as the new *Iowa Outdoors* magazine. While supplies last, free tee shirts will be given away to anyone subscribing to the new magazine.

A number of DNR biologists and foresters will be on hand to give one-on-one habitat advice to interested landowners in the Habitat Help Room. Landowners who bring the legal description of their property will be able to view aerial photos of it on the computer. Using the photos, biologists will be able to discuss conservation options with biologists fluent in state, federal and local PF conservation programs.

Kids can find plenty to do in the Youth Village with continuous activities, entertainment, drawings, games and presentations. DNR recreational safety officers will have two laser shot booths available for kids to try out their shooting skills and will also make presentation on wing shooting and safety.

The Iowa Build-A-Wildlife-Area campaign will give visitors a chance to contribute to a fund raising effort for land acquisition that will turn every dollar contributed into three. Iowa's Pheasants Forever State Council began the campaign in August 2006 and will continue through the Pheasant Fest. Thanks to matching grants by a number of company partners, Iowa Build-A-Wildlife-Area campaign will be able to triple any money donated and plans to unveil their first land purchase at the Saturday evening banquet.

DNR personnel and others will give seminars and demonstrations throughout the day on a variety of topics at a variety of rooms and stages. Presentations range from wild

game cooking, training hunting dogs, getting children involved in the outdoors, improving habitat for wildlife, firearms safety and becoming an outdoors woman. For a complete schedule of events at Pheasant Fest visit www.NationalPheasantFest.org.

Single-day Fest tickets will sell for \$9 at the show. Advance admission tickets are now on sale at www.iowaeventscenter.com. For a special price of \$25, buyers can receive admission tickets for Friday, Saturday and Sunday of the Fest, along with a one-year membership to PF (a \$30 value).

This is the first time for National Pheasant Fest to visit Iowa and it is expected to be bigger and better than the two previous Fests held in Minneapolis and in Omaha. Event planners are predicting attendance will break 25,000, making 2007 National Pheasant Fest one of the biggest show-style events in Iowa.

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TROUT STOCKING AT SUMMERSET POSTPONED

BOONE – The Iowa Department of Natural Resources has postponed the Jan. 11 trout stocking at Summerset State Park due to questionable ice conditions. The DNR will attempt to stock the trout the following week, if the ice conditions and weather allow.

The DNR will announce by 11 a.m., on Jan. 16, if and when the stocking will proceed through its website at www.iowadnr.gov and local media.

The DNR has plans to stock about 1,600 catchable sized rainbow trout in the South Lake.

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NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION TO MEET JAN. 17 IN DES MOINES

DES MOINES - The Natural Resource Commission of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will meet at 9:15 a.m., Jan. 17, in the fourth floor conference room, Wallace State Office Bldg., in Des Moines. The meeting is open to the public.

A joint meeting with the Environmental Protection Commission will follow in the same room at 10 a.m.

Members of the NRC are Joan Schneider, Randy Duncan, Carol Kramer, Richard Francisco, Janice Marcantonio, Lennis Moore and Elizabeth Garst.

The following is the agenda for the January meeting.

- Approve Agenda
- Approve Minutes of Dec. 14 Meeting
- Construction Projects
 - Viking Lake, Montgomery County – Jetties and Fish Habitat
 - Waubonsie/Washawtee State Park, Fremont County – Engineering Services for Roadway Design
- Land Acquisition
 - Trout Run Creek, Winneshiek County – Holland
 - Sedan Bottoms Wildlife Management Area, Appanoose County - Appler
- Agreement with the Hungry Canyons Alliance
- Timber Sales
 - Cardinal Marsh Wildlife Area – Winneshiek County
 - Sny Magill, North Cedar Wildlife Area – Clayton County
- Items for Next Meeting, Feb. 8, in Des Moines

For more information, contact Karyn Stone at 515-281-8650.

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